



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
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Press Release

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**ATTORNEY GENERAL DARRELL V. MCGRAW, JR.,
ANNOUNCES THAT ALYON TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,
A PURVEYOR OF INTERNET PORNOGRAPHY,
REMAINS BARRED FROM DOING BUSINESS IN WEST VIRGINIA**

Attorney General Darrell V. McGraw, Jr. today announced that Alyon Technologies, Inc. ("Alyon") headquartered in Secaucus, New Jersey, remains barred from conducting any business activity with West Virginia consumers until further order of the Kanawha Circuit Court.

Attorney General McGraw filed suit against Alyon in May of this year seeking to shut down the company's pornography-related Internet business. The complaint alleged that Alyon barraged West Virginia consumers with false billing statements which claimed they had accessed pornographic websites on the Internet. Some consumers did not even own computers and thus could never have accessed the Internet. The Attorney General's complaint also alleged that Alyon used deceptive advertising to lure adolescent males onto the adult website by advertising that no credit card was needed to gain access to the website.

The lawsuit asked for a preliminary injunction barring the company from further business activity in West Virginia until the case is resolved. On June 19, Alyon agreed to block its Internet traffic from reaching West Virginia consumers and to stop all billing and collection activity in West Virginia until further order of the court.

A hearing was scheduled for Monday, July 28, during which Attorney General McGraw's Consumer Protection Division was to ask Kanawha Circuit Judge Charles King to make preliminary findings concerning Alyon's conduct vis-a-vis West Virginia consumers. Several West Virginians appeared at the courthouse prepared to testify that they were horrified when they received bills from Alyon claiming they had been viewing Internet pornography. It appears Alyon bills people by tracking the telephone number from which an Internet purchase originated, using a mechanism much like a caller ID system. However, one 84-year-old consumer said the phone number listed on the bill was not hers, and she had no idea whose phone number it was. Still another consumer said the phone number on her Alyon bill was her own, but no one was home at the time Alyon claims the Internet charges were incurred. These consumers attempted to contact the company and dispute the charges, but Alyon never canceled the alleged debts.

Alyon representatives appeared in Charleston for the hearing but agreed before the hearing began to a court order restraining any and all Internet contact with West Virginia consumers and any and all billings or collections from West Virginia consumers until further order of the court. The Attorney General's office and Alyon's attorneys will submit briefs to the court regarding whether Alyon's conduct violates West Virginia telemarketing and debt collection laws.

If you believe you have been a victim of Alyon's billing practices, contact Attorney General McGraw's consumer hotline at

1-800-368-8808

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